

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended the specification to include descriptions of Figs. 9-14. Although Figs. 9-14 were filed with this application on December 10, 2003 and were discussed in the "Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments" section of the specification, the descriptions for these figures were inadvertently omitted from the "Brief Description of the Drawings" section of the specification. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by these amendments, which are supported by and entirely consistent with the discussion of figures in the "Detailed Description."

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

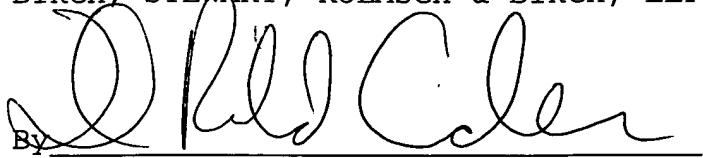
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Richard Anderson", written over a horizontal line.

D. Richard Anderson, #40,439

DRA/jdm
4243-0105P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000